

Current Management of Lower Columbia River Recreational and Commercial Fisheries



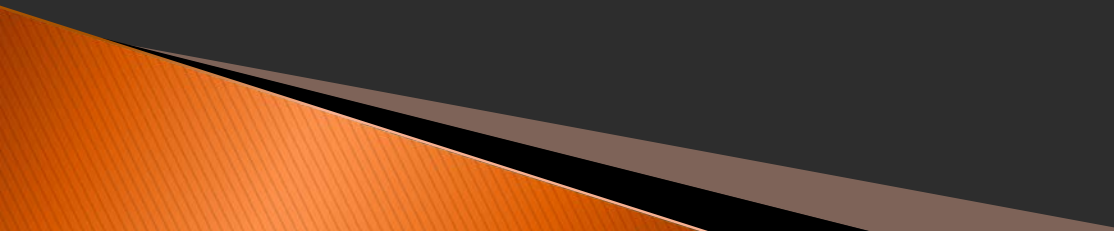
Washington
Department of
Fish and
Wildlife

Oregon
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Upper River Spring Chinook

Commission Guidance

- Share the allowable incidental take (impact) of ESA-listed upper river spring Chinook between recreational and commercial fisheries
 - Set aside a portion of the allowable impact prior to a run-size update as a buffer against uncertainty
 - Vary the allowable impact and how it is shared among fisheries depending on the forecasted run-size
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Upper River Spring Chinook

Harvest Guideline

- Use the 2008-2017 *US v Oregon* Management Agreement to determine the harvest guideline
 - Prior to the run-size update, calculate for a run-size that is no more than 70% of the forecast as a buffer against uncertainty
 - Set the non-Treaty fisheries guideline equal to that for Treaty-Tribe fisheries
- Use mark-rates and gear-specific release mortalities to estimate the portion of the harvest guideline allocated to each fishery

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

Commission Guidance

- Manage the upper Columbia summer Chinook populations for natural and hatchery aggregate escapement goals
- Calculate the harvest guideline for non-Treaty fisheries downstream from Priest Rapids Dam based on an agreement between WDFW and the Colville Tribe
- Allocate 50% of the harvest guideline for fisheries downstream of Priest Rapids Dam for recreational use and 50% for non-Treaty commercial use

Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

Harvest Guideline

- Calculate a total Columbia River harvest guideline based on annual abundance and escapement goals provided in the 2008-2017 *US v Oregon* Management Agreement
- Include ocean harvest in the non-Treaty share of the guideline
- Include Colville tribal harvest in the non-Treaty share of the guideline

Fall Chinook and Coho

Commission Guidance

- Optimize the non-treaty harvest of Chinook and coho and to provide recreational and commercial fisheries a balanced opportunity
- Consider fair and reasonable catch opportunity, stability and duration of fisheries, as well as sharing of the conservation responsibility when developing recreational and commercial fishing options

Fall Chinook and Coho

Harvest Guidelines

- Calculate the allowable take (impact) in-river for each of the ESA-listed stocks encountered by the fisheries
- Work with fisheries stakeholders and the public in the “North of Falcon” process to develop an annual “Non-Indian Columbia River Fall Fishery Chinook Allocation Agreement” that describes season structures for each fishery
- Calculate catch expectations for each fishery and the shares of allowable impacts necessary to meet those expectations, based on the proposed season structures

White Sturgeon Downstream from Bonneville Dam

Commission Guidance

- Safeguard spawning-size sturgeon
- Harvest at a rate that grows the population
- Maintain concurrent regulations in Oregon and Washington waters
- Provide viable & diverse fishing opportunity
- Align sturgeon management in coastal waters and Puget Sound with Columbia River

White Sturgeon Downstream from Bonneville Dam

Harvest Guideline

- Calculate as 16% harvest rate on legal-sized fish or 17,000 fish (whichever is less)
- Allocate 20% of harvest guideline to non-Treaty commercial fisheries
- Allocate 80% of harvest guideline to recreational fisheries
 - 48% Below Wauna (Estuary)
 - 20% Above Wauna
 - 12% Willamette